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Peninsula Wilderness Club Events

February 1995

Peninsula Wilderness Club meets on the second Monday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Kitsap Unitarian Fellowship Church on Perry Avenue in East Bremerton. The public is cordially invited.

Meeting February 13th

Bicycling Across Canada

Irena Reynolds will present a slide program of her 1988 bicycle adventure from Calgary through Banff, Jasper, British Columbia and into Washington, including a jaunt of sea-kayaking in the San Juan Islands. She will also show highlights of her 1990 trip to Costa Rica.

Nisqually Wildlife Refuge

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11th; Teresa Miller is planning a day trip to the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge near Olympia. Join her for about 5 miles of strolling through the sanctuary. Bring your binoculars and identification books for birds, bugs, bushes... Contact Teresa at 373-6781.



Upcoming Events

Skiing and Snowshoeing on Mt. Ellinor

FEBRUARY 4th or 5th; Doug Savage will choose the day that has the most promising weather for a day of skiing and/or snowshoeing on Mt. Ellinor. To find out more, call Doug at 698-9774.

Snowshoeing at Hurricane Ridge

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12th; Join Pat and Dan Kirschbaum for a day of snowshoeing from Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center across Sunrise Ridge to Klahhni Ridge. No previous snowshoeing experience is necessary. Dan is guaranteeing a bright, sunny day and fun for everyone. Contact the Kirschbaums at 698-3684.



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Winterfest 1995

WEEKEND of FEBRUARY 18th, 19th & 20th; PWC'rs will converge on Mt. Rainier for the annual Winterfest. Longmire reports they are filled, but alternate accommodations can be made in the area. Consider joining members for a day ski if you are unable to make this event an overnighiter. There will be cross-country skiing at all levels, as well as, snowshoeing and other winter fun.

Mt. Townsend Adventure

FEBRUARY 25th or 26th; Bill Boileau will attempt to climb Mt. Townsend on either Saturday or Sunday, depending on weather. Bring snowshoes for this adventure. Call Bill for more details at 613-5263.

Igloo Building

WEEKEND of MARCH 4th and 5th; Ted Wiles and Joe Weigel are organizing the annual igloo trip near Paradise on Mt. Rainier. Join fellow members for a day of constructing Artic abodes and an evening of hot cocoa and socializing. No experience

necessary; tools provided.

Contact Ted
at 876-5718
or Joe at
871-0291.



Climbing at Mt. Rainier

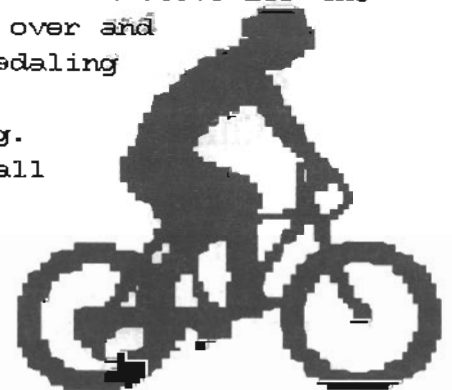
WEEKEND of MARCH 4th and 5th; Bill Boileau will be at Mt. Rainier, climbing Castle Rock and Pinnacle Peak. If you have climbing experience and would like to join him, contact Bill at 613-5263.

Ski Hut Outings

Tony reports both the February 11th/12th trip to Snow Bowl hut and the March 11th/12th trip to Copper Creek hut are full. For more information on the Mt. Tahoma Trails Association, see page 4 of this newsletter.

Seattle Bicycle Circuit

SATURDAY, MARCH 18th; Steve Vittori is organizing a pub/winery/soda bicycle circuit in Seattle. Join Steve for the ferry ride over and a day of pedaling and socializing. Riders of all levels are welcome. You can reach Steve at 377-1869.



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Ptarmigan Ski-Inn

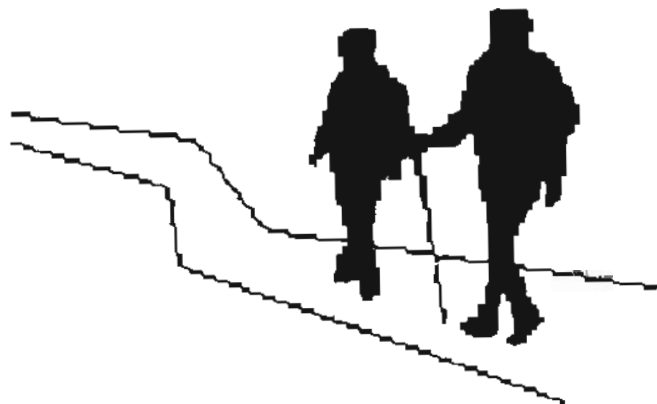
WEEKEND of MARCH 18th and 19th; Brian Steely is planning his Almost-Annual Ptarmigan Ski-Inn. If you have some back-country skiing and camping experience and would like to join in a weekend of snow and seclusion, contact Brian at 598-2254.

Umtanum Creek Getaway

WEEKEND of MARCH 25th and 26th; The Umtanum Creek is a tributary to the Yakima River in Eastern Washington. Teddy/Becky Wiles and Barry Johnson will be car camping on the banks of the Yakima and day hiking from camp into the Umtanum Canyon. This is a beginners' level/family hike with only about 200 feet of elevation gain.

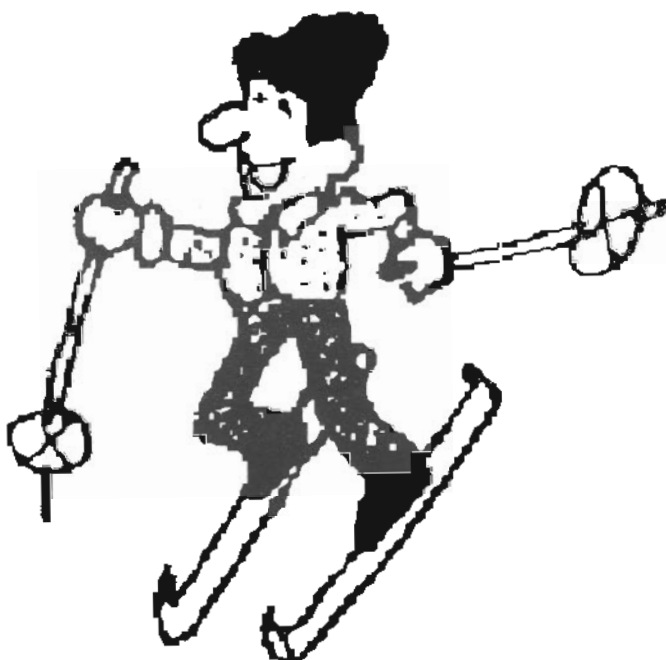
Attractions include: cottonwoods and aspen; beaver, deer and big horn sheep activity; catch and release trout; hiking; campfires; potlucks; and good company.

Contact Ted at 876-5718 and/or Barry at 373-5334.



Paradise Glacier

SATURDAY, MARCH 25th; Doug Savage will be skiing on Mazama Ridge to Paradise Glacier. This trip is about 8 miles round trip and requires intermediate skiing abilities. Contact Doug at 698-9774.



Wednesday Evening Skiing at Snoqualmie

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS; Doug Savage is traveling to Snoqualmie Pass for evening telemark lessons on February 1st and 8th. Lift tickets are \$13. If you are interested in carpooling for an evening of night downhill or telemarking, contact Doug at 698-9774.

Mt. Tahoma Trails Association

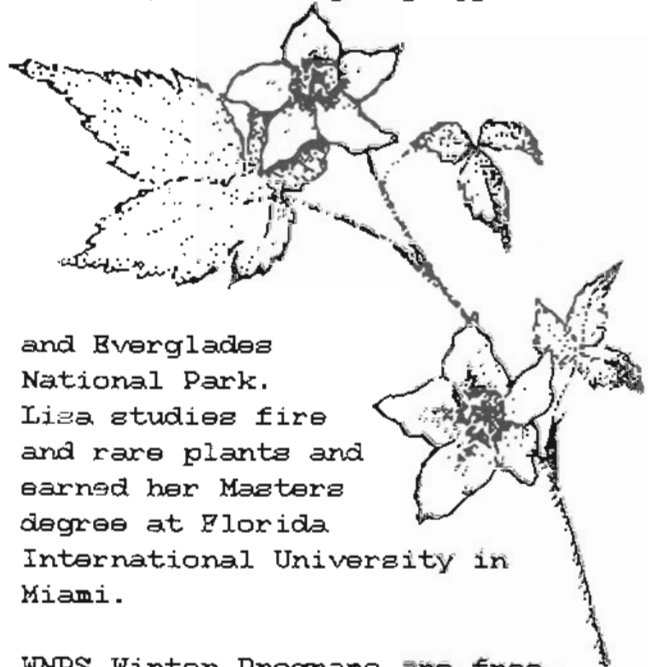
The Mt. Tahoma Trails Association was formed in 1990 after interest in the project was shown by local land managers and the public. It provides over 100 miles of cross country skiing on snow-covered logging roads in the Nisqually River area near Ashford, Washington and the Golden Lakes region near Mt. Rainier National Park.

It is operated and managed by volunteers. Volunteers build and maintain the association's three huts and yurt, groom and patrol trails, operate the reservation system, coordinate snow plowing activities and perform many other duties.

Your membership helps fund these activities and promotes the interests of this organization within the cooperative government organizations, the Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, Champion International and Mt. Rainier National Park. If you are interested in joining the association, address membership requests to Mt. Tahoma Trails Association; P.O. Box 206; Ashford, WA 98304. Include a self addressed, stamped envelope with your request. Between December 15th and April 2nd call (206)569-2451, or stop in at the headquarters at the Bunkhouse in Ashford between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm on Saturdays or Sundays for more details. Your membership and volunteerism helps ensure the future of this organization.

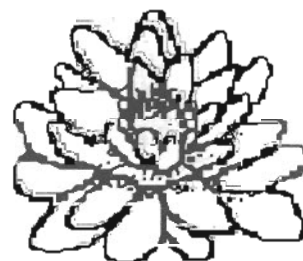
WA Native Plant Society

Everyone is welcome to attend the Olympic Peninsula Chapter of Washington Native Plant Society Winter Programs. February's presentation will be 7:00 pm Tuesday, February 21st at the Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles. Lisa Spier, Biological Technician with Olympic National Park and the University of Washington, will present Fire Ecology and Ecosystems in South Florida. The discussion will explore her work as a plant ecologist in South Florida, including Big Cypress



and Everglades National Park. Lisa studies fire and rare plants and earned her Masters degree at Florida International University in Miami.

WNPS Winter Programs are free. Call Wendy McClure, 779-3820, if you want more information.



This and That

Interested Members Meeting

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16th;
February's Interested Members Meeting will take place in the home of Bert and Diana Cripe in Port Orchard. This is an opportunity to help organize upcoming trips and club business, as well as, get to know other PWC'rs. For directions, contact the Cripe's at 895-4299.

February Potluck

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24th; Join fellow club members for an evening of fun, food and great conversation at the February potluck. Doug Savage is hosting this month's potluck at his home in the Illahes area. To RSVP and get directions, call Doug at 698-9774.

Address Changes

If you need to change the address to which your newsletter is delivered, notify Jim Luddon at the following address: 165 NW

Alta Drive;
Bremerton, WA
98310. You can

also change your

address at the time you pay your annual dues. Please do NOT call the newsletter editor to report changes of address; this creates extra work steps for our volunteer staff, and may delay updating of the database and your newsletter delivery.



New Members

The PWC welcomes new members for the month of January: Joe Galloway, Ruth Ercilia Goldberg and Jim Pickett.

March 16th Slide Program

The PWC will be sponsoring a free slide presentation by sea-kayaker Steph Dutton for the public on Thursday, March 16th at 7:00 pm. It will be held at the Olympic College theatre. Flyers will be available at the February Monday night meeting. Feel free to help us get the word out by taking a few to post around your office or community.



Club organizers for the program would like to announce the event on various computer bulletin boards. If any club members have access to computer bulletin boards and are willing to help advertise this upcoming event, please contact Teresa Miller at 373-6781.

Door Prize Winner

Brian Schladetzky won the January meeting door prize, a Therm-A-Rest sleeping pad. Thanks to Judd at Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe for donating the monthly door prize.

ANTARCTICA EXPERIENCE

by Alice Savage

On February 25, 1994, I boarded a jet in Seattle and flew to Los Angeles for a big adventure to Antarctica. Because of bad weather, the plane was late, I missed the connection with the Argentine Airline and, needless to say, the bottom fell out of this trip.

Of course, it was a big disappointment but it finally worked out, and November of 1994 I was again on my way. I made the trip with a few extra bonuses. This time I flew to Miami then on to Buenos Aires and joined the group I would be with for the next two and half weeks.

Buenos Aires is an enormous city. It spread out to the horizon as we flew in. Third in size in the Western World, it has a population of 11.7 million people. It boasts the widest boulevard in the world; Avenida 9 de Julio is 400 feet across between buildings. It is a busy place with traffic jams and literally thousands of black and yellow cabs darting about. Although owned by different people, they are all the same color and are easy to spot. We were treated that evening to the famous Argentina beef at a "get-acquainted" dinner.

The next day we flew to Tierra del Fuego ("Land of Fire") at the tip of Argentina and spent the night in Ushuaia, the world's southernmost city. Our hotel sat

high in the hills with a lovely view of the harbor and downtown area. We explored the town and later several of us crowded into a small pub for dinner and, in spite of our poor Spanish, managed to order a superb meal.

In the morning we had a bus tour in the National Park of Tierra del Fuego. Here we hiked a few short trails and found "Land's End". The highway from Alaska to the tip of South America ends here, a distance of about 11,090 miles. On a pathway we met the Ambassador from Indonesia with his wife. A pleasant man, he nodded and smiled as he passed by.

Late in the day we boarded our ship which would be our home for 13 days. Smallest of three vessels, the Livonia (235 feet long) carried 35 passengers with a staff of 8 to look after us and a crew of 25. It originated in Estonia and had an Estonian crew. The other two ships each carried 78 passengers and all were from Russia. At one time, they were used by the Russians as research vessels but now cruise Antarctic waters on tours.

It was nice having a small group and we had a lot of fun. I shared a cabin with Sue from Massachusetts, who was very pleasant. Our cabin had two small beds, a desk and a small settee. A shared bathroom between our cabin and the next sometimes was a hassle when the

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two fellows in the other cabin forgot to unlock the door on our side. But, we simply went in through their cabin as few people locked their doors. Actually it became a big joke.

About 6:00 pm we sailed out into the Beagle Channel then turned northeast toward the Falkland Islands. Darkness fell about 11:00 pm. Breakfast was at 7:45 am with a huge buffet of ham, bacon, sausage, eggs, rolls, hot oatmeal, juices and fruit. We certainly didn't lack for food. Lunch and dinner were both big meals, as well.

Two nights and a day later, we arrived at the Falklands. The zodiacs took us ashore at a small island named Carcass. Sheep grazed on a hillside and we met the owner as we walked up. He was working on a balky truck which wouldn't run. Behind a wire fence, to keep them away from the sheep, Gentoo Penguins were nesting. This was our first penguin encounter and quite exciting.



That afternoon we landed on West Point Island to see Black Browed Albatross nesting among Tufted Rockhopper Penguins. Later the owners, Roddy and Lilly Napier, invited the whole lot of us in for tea. This lady spends hours over an oil range making piles of goodies and invites everyone who stops by the island in for tea.

The farm house sat on a huge green hillside dotted with large yellow patches of Gorse, a bush similar to our Scotch Broom. It was springtime and many flowers were blooming.

Dinner that evening was filet mignon. A pretty Estonian girl served us homemade rolls from a huge basket she carried to the tables. Water in tall, two liter bottles was placed on the tables. More than once they flew across the room when the ship pitched and rolled. Many meals ended with rich desserts. I had to pass on most of these.

Another night of sailing brought us to the eastern side of the Falklands and we experienced a very rough landing on Volunteer Point. It was tricky in the large waves and most of us got wet. It was well worth it because here is the home of the lovely King Penguins. A mile walk brought us to a huge group of them in different stages of growth. Many were full-sized but still in their downy, brown coats. Others with a few brown patches sticking out here and there on sleek black and white bodies looked quite comical. A few were courting and many were incubating their one egg by holding it on their feet while covering it with a brood patch. The King is beautiful with a gold patch on each side of the head. He stands at 37 inches; only the Emperor Penguin is larger at 44 inches.

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The next stop was Port Stanley, capitol of the Falklands and the only town on the islands. Here we found several small shops. One sold beautiful handknit sweaters from wool raised on the islands. A great museum with relics from the Falklands' past was not yet finished but the curator, John Smith, gave us a tour. He wrote a fascinating book called 74 Days which is a diary of the Falklands occupation when Argentina invaded in 1982. I purchased a copy which Mr. Smith signed.

The Livonia anchored offshore overnight and the next morning we had a bus tour of Stanley. In an inlet, we discovered a graveyard of half sunken small ships from a past era. Large fields were fenced off with signs warning of land mines which were placed by the Argentines during the '82 war. Made of plastic, they cannot be detected so the land lies useless. Large piles of peat were stacked in the peat fields. This is used for heating the houses.

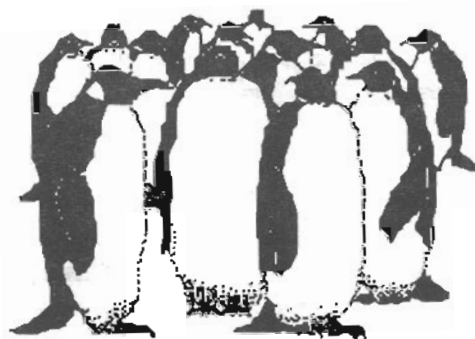
SEEKING TO BUY: back-country cook stove, water filter, "Hollow-Fill" sleeping bag, Gortex shell, ice axe, compression bags

FOR SALE: Moonstone sleeping bag

CONTACT: Tim Rossiter at 779-4450

Prior to the 1982 war, people in the Falklands were considered inferior by the British. Anyone from England associating with the Falklanders was immediately sent home. This is quite ironic as most people here are of British origin. The situation has now changed; the British have finally decided the Falkland folks are intelligent and must possess a lot of "know-how" to survive in this harsh land.

- Stay tuned for more from Alice's exciting trip to Antarctica in next month's PENWICK. -



FOR SALE:

Skis: Epoke 1000 wax base touring skis, 190 and 205 cm, \$125 each; AND Fisher GTS back country, metal edge 190 and 205 cm, \$125 each

Boots: Asolo Extreme with double buckle, size 7 1/2 EE will fit men's 8, \$250; Merrill XCD lace touring boots, men's size 8, \$125; AND Asolo Snowfield touring boots, women's size 6, \$125

Life Link ski poles, \$25

Contact Skip or Sharon McKenzie at 830-4746

New Dungeness Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society

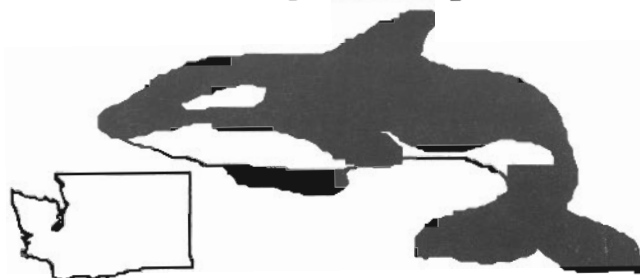
by Wendy McClure

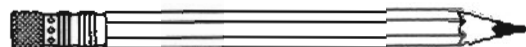
On a recent sunny winter day Barb and I hiked out to the lighthouse at the end of Dungeness Spit. As you remember reading in the paper, the Coast Guard no longer mans the lighthouse and it is now staffed by volunteers. We met Fran Sales and her husband out there who schedule the volunteers and we learned how you can spend a week being a lighthouse keeper at this great place. All volunteers must join the U.S. Lighthouse Society, New Dungeness Chapter (single membership \$35 per year; family membership \$50 per year) and four people minimum are needed each week. Duties include giving lighthouse tours from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily and, in summer, watering and mowing the lawn.

Those of you who have hiked out there will remember the house - that's where you will live. It has three bedrooms, two bathrooms and a basement with a washer, dryer and pool table. There are beds for six (two twin and two double beds), but a couple more people could go if they don't mind sleeping bags on the floor. You will need to provide all your own food for a week, any extra bedding you may want (mattress pads, sheets, some blankets and pillows are provided), clothes and personal items. A vehicle will take these things and four of you out to the lighthouse at low tide - which can be anytime of the day or night.

For more information about this great opportunity for a unique vacation, call Fran Sales (681-2438) who schedules volunteers, or Marianne (683-2459).

Some things to be aware of on joining: Because of the growing size of our membership, it is necessary to send two couples, (or four persons representing at least two memberships), out each week as Keepers. Only four adults will be permitted in the transfer vehicle. This leaves room for some children and/or dogs and seven days provision. Large numbers of either will require special arrangements, or may be denied. Anyone (except dogs) may walk out and back, (5 1/2 miles one way). Dogs are the only pets allowed. Once at the lighthouse, dogs must be restrained by leash or confinement to quarters. Transfer day is Saturday at lowest low tide which sometimes occurs in the middle of the night and may include late Friday or early Sunday hours. To identify themselves to visitors as persons in charge, Keepers should wear identifying clothing when on duty, such as: the chapter hat; or, on navy blue clothing, our shoulder patch or badge; or, full uniform. Keepers have specific duties to the station and the visiting public. There is NO SMOKING allowed inside any building.





Newsletter Contributions

Articles, trip reports, interviews, announcements, etc for the PENWICKER can be sent to: Teresa Miller, P.O. Box 3163, Bremerton, WA 98310; Or, phone 373-6781. Please include your name and telephone number with your submittals.

Mailing List to Be Updated

The club telephone/address list is being updated. A copy will be available for mark-up at the February and March meetings. If you need to change your information, please ensure the mark-up copy is corrected.

Club Officers

President.....Dan Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Vice Pres.....Harry Wilson.....479-1322
Secretary.....Pat Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Treasurer.....Kevin Kilbridge.....871-2537

Miscellaneous Staff

Editor.....Teresa Miller.....373-6781
Contributors.....H.Schwartz.....D.Savage...
Entertainment....Joe Weigel.....871-0291
Refreshments.... Tony Abruzzo.....871-5754

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